

Message Text

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ACTION SNM-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 AGRE-00 HEW-06 MED-03
DHA-02 SCA-01 L-03 H-02 SS-15 DEAE-00 CIAE-00
INR-07 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 USIA-15 NSC-05
OES-06 OMB-01 DODE-00 /094 W
-----231612Z 057411 /46

P R 231525Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3427
INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS OSLO 1398

DEPT FOR MATHEA FALCO

PARIS AND COPENHAGEN FOR DEA

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SNAR, NO
SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS ON DECRIMINALIZATION OF MARI-
HUANA

REF: STATE 57902

1. CHAPTER 162 OF NORWAY'S CRIMINAL CODE (ACT CONCERNING DRUGS
AND POISONOUS SUBSTANCES) DEFINES POSSESSION OF AND TRAFFICKING
IN MARIHUANA AS ILLEGAL, WITH OFFENDERS SUBJECT TO SAME CRIMINAL
SANCTIONS AS IN CASES INVOLVING HARDER, MORE DANGEROUS DRUGS.
PUNISHMENT FOR MARIHUANA AND ALL DRUG OFFENSES UNDER CHAPTER 162
CAN BE MAXIMUM 10 YEARS IMPRISONMENT FOR TRAFFICKING OR POSSESSION,
OR 15 YEARS MAXIMUM FOR CONVICTION OF BOTH OFFENSES. IN
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PRACTICE, DRUG SENTENCES TEND TO BE LIGHT. HEAVIEST
SENTENCE TO DATE IS 9 YEARS FOR TWO CHINESE CONVICTED OF
SMUGGLING HEROIN INTO NORWAY IN DECEMBER 1976.

2. PUBLIC ATTITUDE IN NORWAY FAVORS LENIENCY BEFORE THE LAW
FOR ALL DRUG USERS AND TREATMENT OF ADDICTS/USERS INSTEAD OF
PROSECUTION. POLICE, UNDER CHAPTER 162, HAVE DISCRETION TO

HANDLE DRUG OFFENSES AS CIVIL MISDEMEANORS, AND THIS GENERAL PRACTICE AT THIS TIME. OFFENDERS CHARGED WITH CIVIL MISDEMEANORS RECEIVE A WARNING OR A SMALL FINE. THIS POLICE PRACTICE HAS BEEN SANCTIONED BY THE NORWEGIAN ATTORNEY GENERAL.

3. NORWEGIAN AUTHORITIES ADVISE US THAT NO CHANGE IN THE LAW REGARDING MARIHUANA IS CONTEMPLATED, AND THAT CURRENT PRACTICE OF CHARGING MARIHUANA OFFENDERS WITH CIVIL MISDEMEANOR AT DESCRETION OF POLICE WILL BE CONTINUED.
ANDERS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977OSLO01398
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Executive Order: N/A
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Litigation History:
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